21 June 1978

NOTE FOR CHAIRMAN, HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: First Meeting of the OSCOL Ad Hoc Working Group

1. The first meeting of the OSCOL ad hoc working group was held on 20 June. Attending were:

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- Chairman, HRC
- Dep. Chairman, HRC
- Coordinator
- Alternate Coordinator
- [ ]

Dr. Wm. Dodge
- Dir. LC/FRD

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- Dir. DoD CIRC System
- Representing [ ]
  C/RES/NFAC
- Independent Contractor

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2. Ambassador [ ] welcomed the members and gave a brief review of how the need arose for the working group, then turned the meeting over to [ ]

3. The meeting followed the agenda (attached), covering in two hours a detailed discussion of the paper OSCOL Problems, Issues, Opportunities That Merit Working Group Attention. The tasking proposed by the Coordinator for each of the first six topics was accepted by the members. On topics

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7 and 8 [ ] questioned the need for working group attention on these matters, while Dr. Dodge felt the topics to be worthwhile and the others were undecided. The decision on whether or not to address them was deferred. Comments on the other topics went as follows:

First Topic: Who is acquiring, indexing, storing, collating, comparing, translating what for whom? All agreed that this was an essential first task, from which the other tasks extend to varying degrees. Full cooperation was pledged in the gathering of the data.

Second Topic: How much quality open source reporting is enough for purposes of national intelligence production? [ ]
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[ ] expressed reservations about the point of this question, and expressed doubt that much of value would come from the line of inquiry. He acquiesced, however, to pro-inquiry arguments advanced by the Coordinator and [ ]

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Third Topic: Collection support to the S&T audience. It was agreed that we would wait for the STIC report before deciding what, if anything, the working group should do on this topic.

Fourth Topic: Functional shortfalls, redundancies and opportunities for improvement. No problem with any of the three sub-tasks.

Fifth Topic: Exploitation problems and opportunities. No problem with the specific questions or proposed tasking. The discussion in this section led to a general concensus that the working group members themselves need to become better acquainted with the major activities in the OSCOL world. [   ]was   STATINTL asked to arrange a working group walk-through of the functions of CIA's Office of Current Reference (5.c) which he will try to arrange on Friday, 29 June. Several members expressed some confusion about the extent to which the activities of CIA's [   ]are applicable to OSCOL. It was concluded that [   ] could decide that, so it was agreed that the Coordinator try to arrange for [   ]to talk to   STATINTL the working group on this subject. Similarly, an afternoon will be set aside for [   ] and Dr. Dodge to bring the other members up to speed on the activities and specialties of their respective units. Lastly, [   ]will arrange for [   ] and   STATINTL [   ] to see the FTD translation mechanism in operation and to visit FTD's supporting unit, the Battelle Institute at the University of Ohio.

STATINTL (left margin, multiple)

Sixth Topic: No problem.

4. We are underway. The greatest benefit to come from the working group may well be just getting the managers of functionally related activities together to compare notes and learn from each other.

[   ]   STATINTL

OSCOL Coordinator

Attachment:
 As stated

OPENING REMARKS

- Ad-hoc working group with a short term mission & limited scope.

- HRC will develop a permanent OSCOL representation or steering group, based on WG findings.

- Conclude work by end of September.

- Work mainly on processing and exploitation part of OSCOL.

- HRC and the organizations concerned have ability to deal with field collection problems, including S & T ones .

- CTS interest: How much centralization is desirable for better orchestration of acquisition, processing, storage and retrieval of LITINT?

- Divide up work; form task forces.

- Keep WG small; call in others as the topics dictate; composition of the WG can evolve as the issues evolve.

- Arrange for necessary - but discourage unnecessary - monitoring of WG meetings.

- Bi-weekly reports to ⬚ report to   STATINTL
  HRC members aperiodically, as appropriate.

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Human Resources Committee
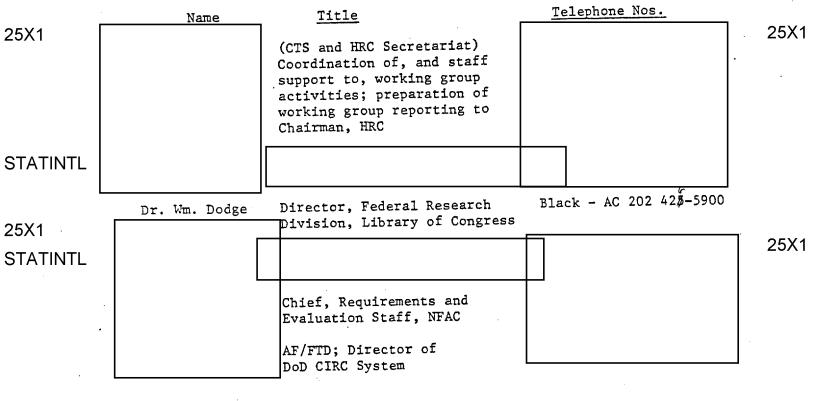
OSCOL WORKING GROUP

HRC-OSCOL-A-001
15 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members, Ad-Hoc OSCOL Working Group

SUBJECT: Agenda and Reading Material for
  the Initial Meeting

1.   Agenda, first meeting of the OSCOL Working Group (WG), Room
BW-07, Community Headquarters Building, Tuesday, 20 June 1978, 1100 hours.

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    a.   Recap of WG mission, proposed methodology,
       duration -

    b.   Agreement on problems, issues and opportunities
       that merit attention - Group

    c.   Dividing up the tasking - Group

    d.   Identifying key persons available for task
       force participation - Group

    e.   Establish tentative timetables, and other
       business - Group

2.   Attached are some written materials which, if studied ahead of
time, will facilitate a, b and c above.

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HRC Secretariat

Attachments:
  As stated

OSCOL WORKING GROUP

Name	Title	Telephone Nos.
25X1	(CTS and HRC Secretariat) Coordination of, and staff support to, working group activities; preparation of working group reporting to Chairman, HRC	25X1
STATINTL		
Dr. Wm. Dodge	Director, Federal Research Division, Library of Congress	Black - AC 202 42$-5900
25X1 STATINTL		25X1
	Chief, Requirements and Evaluation Staff, NFAC	
	AF/FTD; Director of DoD CIRC System	

OSCOL Problems, Issues, Opportunities
that Merit Working Group Attention

1. Question: Who is acquiring, indexing, storing, collating,

comparing, translating, analyzing what for whom? This

data gathering task was specifically assigned by the

HRC as an essential first step supportive of both working

group and subsequent HRC actions in the OSCOL area.

When complete, the data will be packaged as a reference

document and as a briefing package, for use by interested

parties. Proposed action officer: ▭   STATINTL

2. Question: How much quality open source reporting is enough

for purposes of national intelligence production? Each

mode of collection/reporting contributes in some manner

that is unique, so generally speaking a mix of inputs is

necessary for national intelligence production. Assuming

that all of the open source information available to intelli-

gence analysts is top quality, timely material, there remains

a "mix saturation point" beyond which the essentialness of

additional open source input must lessen considerably. From

the vantage point of the production community, where is

open source reporting now in terms of optimum practical

input into national intelligence production by CIA, State/INR

and DIA?   Proposed action officer: ▭   working STATINTL

with production office managers of his choosing in CIA, State/INR

NOTE: The flip side of this question would address

open source reporting as actionable intelligence, which

involves different collection rationale and a different

audience group. Example:

    a. FBIS' 24-hour wire service (see distribution

       list)

    b. FBIS' Daily Report (see distribution list)

    c. Foreign military and other handbooks produced

       and regularly updated by the LC/FRD (Soviet Armed

       Forces OB; foreign military uniforms and insignia;

       military aircraft markings; etc.)

    d. Collection directly supportive of Government R&D

       personnel.

    e. Maps and publications acquired for non-intelligence

       departments and agencies.

The supply of actionable open source reporting is closely

regulated by demand, and often is spot collection for one-

time needs. It does not appear to be a problem area, so

it is suggested that the working group need not address the

question "How much actionable OSCOL is enough?"

3. <u>Collection Support to the S&T Audience</u>: The Scientific and

    Technical Intelligence Committee (STIC) working group has

    produced a penultimate draft of an extensive examination of

collection to support the needs of producers and users

of S&T information. A first reading of the draft indicates

that most of the recommendations therein can be addressed

directly by the HRC, the DCI's Collection Tasking Staff, or

the departments and agencies concerned. The Chairman, HRC

will review the final product and decide whether to ask

this working group to act on any part of the paper. At the

same time, it would be useful for OSCOL working group members

to be aware of the findings of the STIC working group,

especially as relate to problems that new analysts have in

determining what open source material is available. To that

end copies of the STIC report will be made available for

reference.

4. <u>Functional Short-falls, Redundancies and Opportunities for</u>

   <u>Improvement</u>:

   a. <u>Translation</u>. The working group is asked to avoid debating

      the relative merits of human translation, machine-aided human

      translation, and machine translation, while examining Intelli-

      gence Community and other translation activities in terms of

      opportunities for resource and functional efficiencies. Such

      opportunities, if they exist, might be realized by agreed trade-

      offs in "service of common concern" responsibilities relative

      to translation tasks, formation of Community Translation

      Steering Group, or some other form of collective planning

-3-

to make the translation task as efficient as possible on
a Community-wide basis. This task should include a review of
contributor/user participation in the Consolidated Translation
Survey and the practicality of expanding the scope of that
activity and tightening Community procedures for pre-translation

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coordination. It is proposed that [   ] be the working
group action officer on this task, and that he work through
a task force of selected middle management personnel from Air

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Force FTD, DIA, [   ] and appropriate other elements.

b. FBIS, LC/FRD and BMI. On a larger scale, the abstracting,
   extracting, review and study capabilities of FBIS, the
   Library of Congress' Federal Research Division, the Battelle
   Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio, and possibly other
   entities should be critiqued from the standpoint of the
   NFIP service which they provide, or are capable of providing
   for the Community. Emphasis here is on optimizing Community
   benefit of services being performed under one or another
   NFIP program units, and exploring for efficiencies through
   new "service of common concern" arrangements. It is
   proposed that [   ] and **STATINTL**
   the staff coordinator look into this together.

c. Internetting Library Facilities. A variety of
   individual organizational arrangements exist with
   libraries inside and outside of the Intelligence Community,
   and among libraries, in support of NFIP open source
   collectors and/or intelligence production offices. There
   exists an impression, perhaps unjustified, that some

aspect of OSCOL activity in regard to two questions:

(1) Is a more coordinated or collective approach to
use of libraries to support NFIP activities needed? (2)
Have the existing capabilities of libraries for support
of NFIP activities been fully developed? The Chairman,
HRC asks that arrangements with libraries relative to the
maps and publications acquisition programs be exempted
from this exercise, as they are being reviewed by the
Chairman in another context. The working group should
be fully briefed on the maps and publications programs,
however. It is proposed that [   ] be the working group   25X1
action officer on this task.

5. Exploitation Problems and Opportunities: Opinions vary as to
whether open source reporting, in particular foreign literature,
is being exploited to its full potential. The working group is being
asked to examine the exploitation situation and recommend
such changes as may appear appropriate. The following
specific questions may be appropriate, at the discretion of
the working group, but should not serve to limit the scope of
inquiry:

a. Question: Is open source reporting getting to production
analysts in an organized way and on a timely basis so that
optimum exploitation is feasible?

b. Question: Would some manner of centralized over-
   sight of Community-wide activities relative to
   screening, selection, "gisting", "batching", storage
   and retrieval of open source materials significantly
   enhance exploitation of OSCOL products?

c. Question: What would be practical toward optimizing
   the data storage and retrieval capability of CIA's
   Office of Central Reference in "service of common
   concern" support of abstracting, extracting, "gisting",
   "batching" etc. of open source data, and getting
   OSCOL products to intelligence analysts in a timely
   and usable manner?

d. Question: Would it be useful toward enhancing
   exploitation of OSCOL products for the HRC to sponsor a
   continuing OSCOL training and orientation program --
   a walk through of the open source community -- to
   update collectors, processors and analysts alike
   on who is doing (or could do) what for whom?   STATINTL

It is proposed that [   ] carry the

principal working group burden on these and related exploitation

questions. All members have a stake in this action and any

recommendations that come out of these deliberations must

enjoy a broad base of support if they are to succeed.

6. <u>Putting More Intelligence Information into the Public Domain</u>: It

is proposed that the working group ask [   ] of the STATINTL

Department of Commerce's Office of Intelligence Liaison, to

explore this subject with persons whom the working group

can designate, plus others of his choosing, and formulate

recommendations.

7. <u>OSCOL Resource Data Call</u>: It is contended that open source

collection is an especially cost effective (resource outlay

compared to worth of intelligence contribution) NFIP planning

option, and therefore merits more high level management support.

This may be so, but it can not be documented because no means

exist to tally up overall NFIP open source collection man-years

and costs. The OSCOL man-year commitment and costs reportedly

are not specifically identified in departmental accounting

systems, although CIA and DIA can document the contribution that

open source reporting makes to their evaluated intelligence products.

It is <u>not</u> a requirement of the HRC, the DCI's Resource Manage-

ment Staff or his Collection Tasking Staff, but this working

group could serve as a forum for developing the man-year and dollar

cost figures associated with open source collection at the

initiative of the departments and agencies concerned. It is

STATINTL   proposed that [   ] sound out appropriate

program managers in CIA, State and DIA on this matter and

pursue it if a concensus develops to do so. The reporting of

such man-year and cost data at program call time would take

place in normal program channels.

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Suggested Parameters of Open Source Collection

A. Included in OSCOL

1. FBIS activities.

2. Foreign maps and publications acquisition activities
    of the "foreign affairs community."

3. Additional foreign printed material that is supportive
    of national intelligence requirements and which is
    openly acquired by U.S. Missions in foreign countries,
    principally by commercial, science, treasury, and labor
    attaches, and Public Affairs Officers. This does not
    include Mission political and military reporting, the
    product of clandestine collection, or commentary originated
    by members of the Mission.

4. Unclassified printed reports or other material supportive
    of national intelligence requirements, available from US
    contractors (example: RAND Corp.) and the US business
    sector.

5. The part of unclassified foreign information holdings cf
    non-intelligence departments, agencies and organizations,
    that is supportive of national intelligence requirements.

6. The activities of the Library of Congress' Federal
    Research Division.

.7. The DIA's S&T Intelligence Information Support Program
     (STIISP); the Central Information Reference and Control
     (CIRC) system administered by AF/FTD.

8. Commercial reference retrieval services (cite: Bell & Howell's
    TRANSDEX; Lockheed Corporation's DIALOG) to the extent that
    they are conducted for, or available to, the Intelligence
    Community in connection with OSCOL activities.

9. The Internet of Intelligence Community and other Libraries
    to support OSCOL activities.

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10. Other Intelligence Community activities relating to the collection, processing (incl. translation), analysis, distribution or use of open source material.

B. Not Included in OSCOL

1. The IC program of exchange of finished intelligence with foreign intelligence/security services.

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3. The foreign information product of the Interagency . Defector Committee, the Committee on Exchanges, or other DCI committees exclusive of the HRC.

4. Diplomatic traffic from U.S. Missions except as noted in A, 3 above.

5. Defense Attache reporting except as may be supportive cf specified OSCOL activities.

6. Acquisition of information or material by clandestine means.

7. Counterintelligence.

8. Any other form of collection/reporting not specified to be OSCOL.